

## **Upcoming Changes to MRMIP effective September 1, 2003**

The MRMIP will be restructured beginning September 1, 2003 pursuant to Assembly Bill 1401, which was enacted by the California Legislature and signed by the Governor earlier this year.

The restructuring will require MRMIP subscribers to transition out of MRMIP after 36 months into guaranteed-issue coverage that health plans will be required to offer in the individual insurance market.

- The health plan benefit coverage will be similar to what is currently offered by the four plans participating in MRMIP, with the exception of Contra Costa Health Plan which will not be available
- The guaranteed-issue coverage will provide individuals a \$125,000 increase in their annual benefit limit from \$75,000 to \$200,000
- Individuals will begin a new lifetime benefit maximum of \$750,000
- Premiums will increase 10% above what subscribers pay in MRMIP
- The State and health plans will jointly subsidize the cost of the guaranteed-issue coverage

MRMIP is being restructured to reduce the waiting list of applicants for MRMIP and to allow more individuals to be served with the limited funding. Individuals who have transitioned from MRMIP into the guaranteed-issue coverage can remain with their new individual insurance until they are eligible for Medicare, or obtain other health insurance.

The first transition will occur September 1, 2003 for those who enrolled in MRMIP prior to September 1, 2000. MRMIP will be providing these individuals with additional information approximately three months before the 36th month of enrollment.

If you have any questions regarding the restructuring of MRMIP, please contact MRMIP at **1-800-289-6574**.